



Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 2
819 Depot Avenue / Dixon, Illinois / 61021-3500
Telephone 815/284-2271

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Studies & Plans

FAP Route 301 (US 20)

Section 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5 & 177-1

IL 84 North of Galena to Bolton Road West of Freeport

JoDaviess & Stephenson Counties

Job No. P-92-004-92

March 13, 2003

Mr. John Betker
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District
Clock Tower Building
Rock Island, IL 61204-2004

Dear Mr. Betker:

The Federal Highway Administration in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Transportation is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement for a proposed improvement of US 20 from Galena to Freeport in JoDaviess and Stephenson Counties, Illinois. The notice of intent to prepare an EIS was published in the Federal Register on August 13, 1993 and your agency was invited to attend a scoping meeting for the project on September 23, 1993. Since the project will require a Section 404 permit for waters of the United States, which are under the jurisdiction of your agency, we are inviting you to be a cooperating agency in the development of this project. Additionally, the US Army Corps of Engineers has been participating in the NEPA/404 Process for this project.

The study area for this project extends from the US Route 20/Illinois Route 84 intersection north of Galena to the US Route 20/Bolton Road intersection west of Freeport (see Figure 1-1). The length of the existing US 20 is approximately 76 km (47 miles) and passes through the communities of Galena, Elizabeth, Woodbine, Stockton, Lena, Eleroy and Freeport. This existing US 20 is an east-west route. This section of US 20 has two travel lanes and is between a four-lane facility west of Illinois Route 84 and a previously approved four-lane facility east of Bolton Road.

The proposed action is to provide an improved transportation facility within the US Route 20 corridor. Alternatives being considered include the "No-Action" and several "Build" alternatives.

Mr. John Betker
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
US 20: IL 84 North of Galena to Bolton Road West of Freeport
Page 2

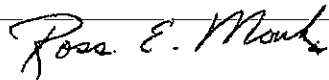
Your agency's involvement should entail those areas under its jurisdiction and no direct writing or analysis will be necessary for the preparation of the document. To maximize interagency cooperation, we will do the following:

- invite your participation in Coordination Meetings;
- consult with you on any relevant technical studies related to your jurisdictional responsibilities;
- consult with you on appropriate environmental mitigation;
- include information in the EIS that the cooperating agency needs to discharge its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) responsibilities and any other regulatory approvals; and
- invite your review and comments on the DEIS.

We would appreciate your expeditious response to this request and your involvement as a cooperating agency on this project. If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of the EIS, please contact Cassandra Rodgers, Ph.D., District 2 Environmental Studies Unit at (815) 284-5455. You may also direct comments or questions regarding the project to the Illinois Division of the FHWA (3250 Executive Park Drive, Springfield, IL 62701).

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer



By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

Env/cr-0175/sb



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Job No. P-92-004-92

March 13, 2003

Mr. Richard Nelson
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Rock Island Field Office
4469 48th Avenue Court
Rock Island, IL 61201

Dear Mr. Nelson:

The Federal Highway Administration in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Transportation is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement for a proposed improvement of US 20 from Galena to Freeport in JoDaviess and Stephenson Counties, Illinois. The notice of intent to prepare an EIS was published in the Federal Register on August 13, 1993 and your agency was invited to attend a scoping meeting for the project on September 23, 1993. Since your agency has specific interests in wetlands and migratory birds, we are inviting you to be a cooperating agency in the development of this project. Additionally, the US Fish and Wildlife Service has been participating in the NEPA/404 Process for this project.

The study area for this project extends from the US Route 20/Illinois Route 84 intersection north of Galena to the US Route 20/Bolton Road intersection west of Freeport (see Figure 1-1). The length of the existing US 20 is approximately 76 km (47 miles) and passes through the communities of Galena, Elizabeth, Woodbine, Stockton, Lena, Eleroy and Freeport. This existing US 20 is an east-west route. This section of US 20 has two travel lanes and is between a four-lane facility west of Illinois Route 84 and a previously approved four-lane facility east of Bolton Road.

The proposed action is to provide an improved transportation facility within the US Route 20 corridor. Alternatives being considered include the "No-Action" and several "Build" alternatives.

Mr. Richard Nelson
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
US 20: IL 84 North of Galena to Bolton Road West of Freeport
Page 2

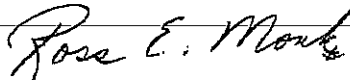
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Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ross E. Monk". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name of the signatory.

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

Env/cr-0177/sb



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JoDaviess & Stephenson Counties

Job No. P-92-004-92

March 13, 2003

Mr. Kenneth Westlake
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5 Office
Planning and Assessment Branch
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Dear Mr. Westlake:

The Federal Highway Administration in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Transportation is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement for a proposed improvement of US 20 from Galena to Freeport in JoDaviess and Stephenson Counties, Illinois. The notice of intent to prepare an EIS was published in the Federal Register on August 13, 1993 and your agency was invited to attend a scoping meeting for the project on September 23, 1993. Since your agency has specific interests in environmental resources, we are inviting you to be a cooperating agency in the development of this project. Additionally, the US Environmental Protection Agency has been participating in the NEPA/404 Process for this project.

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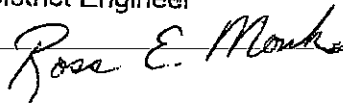
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Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer



By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

Env/cr-0176/sb